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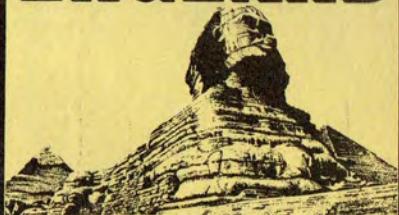
VILLA'S WEMBLEY DESTINY

**Andy Gray
exclusive!**

Discover why fearless
striker Andy Gray
(right) is Aston Villa's
lucky charm as they
bid for a coveted
place in the Milk Cup
Final — see Pages 2
and 3 for our special
on the Wembley
wizard.



ENGLAND



IN EGYPT

**—PICTURE
SPECIAL!**

HEARTS IN COLOUR

**Gordon
Cowans'
Mexico
Mission**



Above: Andy gets his first taste of Wembley as he comes out with his Villa team-mates for the start of the 1977 League Cup Final marathon with Everton.
Right: Brian Little scores Aston Villa's winner in the third Final meeting against Everton.



YOUR FINAL FREE CARDS

FREE inside this week's issue you will find your sixth and final set of super FA Cup Fact File cards to complete your collection.

Simply tear along the perforations and slip the cards into your special plastic wallet — given away FREE with the January 25 issue of MATCH. Watch out for more great FREE gifts in MATCH!

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MATCH

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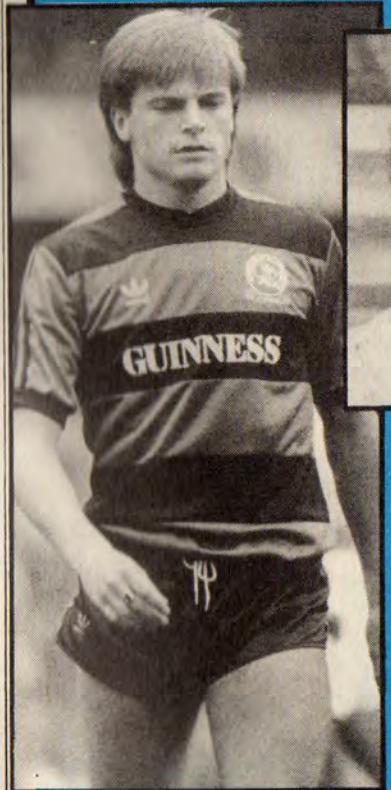
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VILLA'S WEMBLEY DESTINY



Below: John Trewick — "not scared".

MILK CUP RIVALS ARE UNAFRAID

ANDY'S amazing Wembley wizardry holds no fears for the remaining teams in the Milk Cup.

Says midfielder John Trewick, whose Oxford side meet Aston Villa in the two-leg Semi-Final: "We're not scared of his record.

"All good things must come to an end and we're all determined to dump the former Scottish international and his club-mates out of the Milk Cup."

ASTON VILLA will lift the Midlands gloom and win the Milk Cup this season!

And the man who will spur Graham Turner's beleaguered troops to much-needed success is striker Andy Gray.

In an amazing sequence of Wembley successes, the former Scottish international has been part of a winning cup side in his first FULL season with each of his new clubs.

● IT HAPPENED back in 1977 when, following a £110,000 move South from Dundee United, Andy helped Aston Villa beat Everton

to win the League Cup.

● IT HAPPENED three years later when he scored the winning goal for Wolves against Champions Nottingham Forest in the League Cup Final at Wembley and helped pay back part of the amazing £1,469,000 transfer fee which made him the most expensive player in British football.

● IT HAPPENED two seasons ago following a £200,000 move to Goodison Park when Andy scored Everton's second goal in their 2-0 FA Cup Final victory over Watford.

Can soccer's mercurial happy wanderer keep up his amazing record this season with Aston Villa? All the indications say yes!

It may have been a depressing season for Graham Turner's Aston Villa with League gates slumping to an all-time low and the former League and European Champions fighting a desperate battle against relegation.

But their Milk Cup form has been in marked contrast to their League fortunes.

Led by the bustling striker, Villa swept 12 goals past Fourth Division Exeter in two legs, three past Leeds, beat West Brom at The Hawthorns and then accounted for fast-improving Arsenal at Highbury in the Quarter-Final.

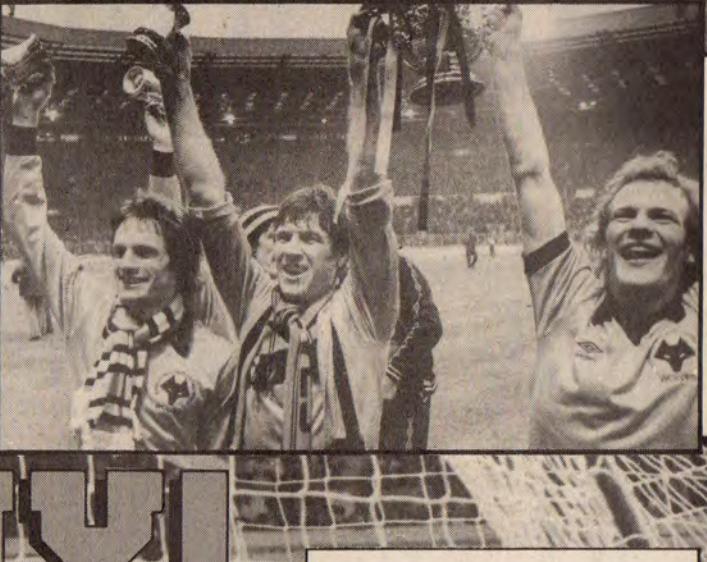
Now only little Oxford stand in the way of Andy reaching his fourth Wembley Final with three different clubs.



Above: Wembley wizard Andy snaps up the easiest of chances to score the winner for Wolves after a mix-up between Nottingham Forest's David Needham and Peter Shilton.

Right: Andy, the man with the Midas touch, celebrates with skipper Emlyn Hughes and Mel Eves after the 1980 League Cup Final.

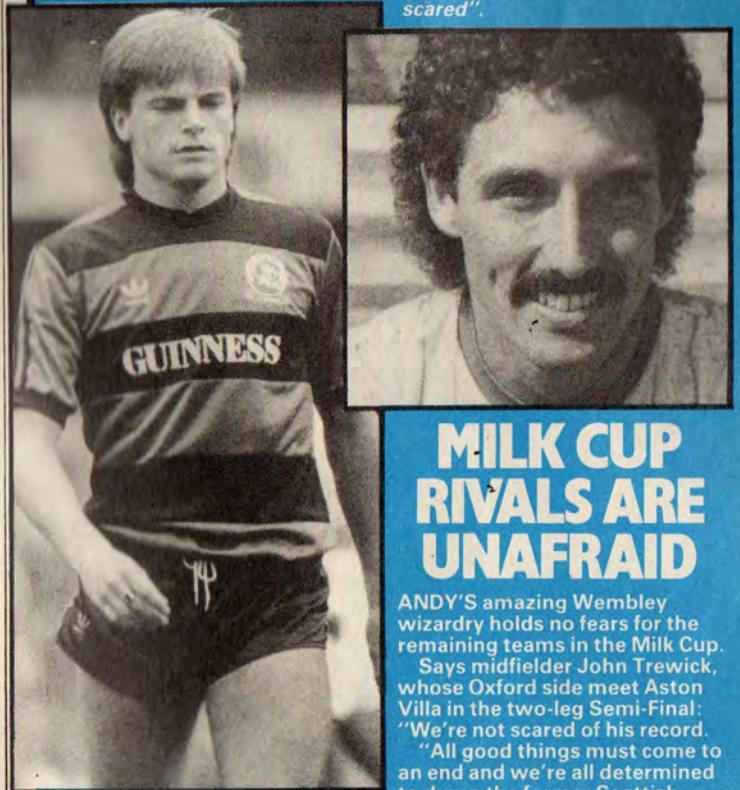
And if aggression, determination and enthusiasm has anything to do with it, Andy and his team-mates will be tasting Milk Cup cream this season.



GOAL! Andy wheels round in delight after scoring Everton's second in the 1984 FA Cup win over Watford. And celebrates victory with fellow scorer Graeme Sharp.



WHITE HO



Gary Bannister — "not superstitious".

"It's uncanny, but success like that sometimes follows one particular player around during his career and there's no doubt Andy has made Wembley his second home.

"But we are desperate to put an end to the sequence and reach Wembley to lift the gloom of a dismal first season in Division One."

The former Newcastle and West Brom star's sentiments are echoed by striker Gary Bannister. His QPR side face the awesome task of beating three-times Milk Cup winners Liverpool before they can even contemplate Wembley.

Says the former Sheffield Wednesday and Coventry hot-shot: "Andy is great at getting people geared up and giving players a belief in themselves. That's one of the reasons he's enjoyed so much success.

"But I'm not superstitious and I don't believe he's got any stranglehold on Wembley.

"If we have to play them in the Final, his hoodoo wouldn't bother me. We'd just go out and play our normal game."

Gary is a great admirer of the former Everton and Wolves star and he says: "He's a smashing player. I'd love to partner him in an attack. He has an amazing ability to get the best out of those around him."

AS the race for a place in the Mexico World Cup Finals heats up, we state the case for one of England's foreign exiles...

No 5 Gordon Cowans (Bari)



UNTOMBED!

EGYPT CLASH BREATHES LIFE INTO GORDON'S INTERNATIONAL CAREER...



GORDON Cowans has 'risen from the dead' to stake a dramatic late claim for a place in Bobby Robson's World Cup squad.

The former Aston Villa star has resurrected his international career following a sparkling comeback in England's match against Egypt earlier this month.

Recalled from his Italian club Bari to make up the numbers for the depleted squad, midfield ace Gordon — capped seven times in 1983 — played as if he'd never been away and marked his return with a goal in England's 4-0 stroll along the Nile.

And the fact he has pushed himself back into contention is a mark of his character and determination after the two horrific injuries which threatened his career.

Setback number one came at the start of the 1983-84 campaign when he broke his leg in two places during a friendly in Aston Villa's pre-season tour of Spain.

But the 27-year-old eased himself gently back into contention and last season his fortunes finally looked to be taking a turn for the better when he moved to Bari with Villa team-mate Paul Rideout in an £800,000 deal last June.

Gordon, who won a League Championship and a European Cup winners' medal at Villa Park, said of the move: "It's just the incentive I need to rebuild my England career."

FACT FILE

NAME: Gordon Cowans.
BIRTHPLACE: Durham.
BIRTHDATE: October 27, 1958.
PREVIOUS CLUB: Aston Villa.
LEAGUE DEBUT: v Ipswich, Feb. 12, 1977.
LEAGUE APPEARANCES: Aston Villa 275.
INTERNATIONAL APPEARANCES: Five England Under-21 caps, eight full caps.
● **DOES not include** appearances for Bari.

NOBBY'S SON GETS A TOUGH UPBRINGING



Nobby Stiles and son John.

THE sweat-stained shirt, the unforgettable jig around Wembley and that famous toothy grin will be synonymous with Nobby Stiles forever.

While the former England World Cup Final hero will always cherish the memories of that incredible summer's day in 1966, he wishes some people would forget it.

His reasoning is simple. "I want my son John to be judged on his ability alone and not my achievements or reputation," says the West Brom boss.

"He's had enough problems during his short career already without people comparing him with me or reminding him he's the son of a former England international."

Catalogue

A list of injuries which read like a catalogue of disaster threatened to wreck the young Leeds player's career almost before it had started.

Taking up the story, Nobby recalls: "When he left school at the age of 17, John went to join Johnny Giles at Shamrock Rovers in the Irish League.

"I was in full agreement because Johnny is

one of the best managers of young players I know, but sadly for John the 18 months he spent there were frustrating ones.

"First of all he had a hernia, then a bad cartilage injury and later developed asthma."

But the setbacks didn't end there. When Nobby took John and his family to Canada, he picked up another injury which kept him out of action for another few months.

"Although he recovered and went on to play for Vancouver Whitecaps in the Indoor League, it was a difficult time for him," says Nobby. "But I'm sure he's learned from it."

"He knows how tough it can be in this game and that you have to work hard to be a success. That sort of attitude will stand him in good stead at Leeds."

John seems to be winning his brave battle and the reward was rich earlier this month when he scored his first League goal for the Elland Road club in the 4-0 win over Stoke.

Delighted

It was a proud moment for father and son alike and Nobby says: "I was absolutely delighted for him because the lad's not had it easy."

"But I know he won't get carried away and will keep his feet firmly on the ground. As the saying goes, there's a long way to go."

That's my boy!

TWO of football's proud dads talk frankly about their soccer-mad sons ... and their battle to follow in famous family footsteps.

NO ROOM AT CELTIC FOR STEVE'S SHOOTING STAR...

graduated from the Celtic Boys' Club, and last term he hit 36 in 34 games.

"In fact ever since the day he first started playing competitive football for school and local teams, he's always been a prolific goalscorer. He certainly makes a better job of it than I did!"

Unfortunately for Paul, his progress was halted a couple of years ago when he suffered serious leg injuries in a car crash.

"That set him back quite a bit but thankfully he's fully recovered now and still banging in the goals," says Steve. "I just hope he has better luck at Bradford than he did at Celtic."

"I was very happy for him to move down to England because he's very keen to prove himself and the experience should be good for him."

"And I believe he'll probably be a lot better off down South where his name won't mean so much to people and they won't be comparing him with me."

Right: Steve Chalmers and son Paul pictured at Parkhead.



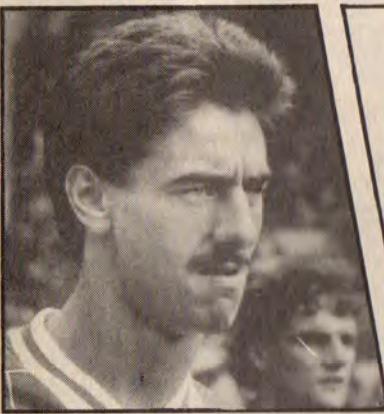
WHAT'S IN A WEEK

SEE IT, READ IT, ENJOY IT IN YOUR ACTION-PACKED SOCCER WEEK! MATCH PROVIDES A DIARY OF THE FOOTBALL EVENTS THAT MATTER.

FEBRUARY 22 TO FEBRUARY 28

ACTION

• IT'S derby day on Saturday! Liverpool meet Everton at Anfield while Arsenal entertain Chelsea



Shoot-out! Top marksmen Ian Rush of Liverpool (left) and Everton's Gary Lineker come face to face in derby day action at Anfield on Saturday.

at Highbury and with all four clubs enjoying good seasons, the fixtures have added spice this time around. Should be a 'red' letter day for the home sides.

• ASTON VILLA might be a 'good thing' in the Milk Cup (see



Pages 2 and 3) but their League form has been terrible and they meet another team in need of the points on Saturday when Ipswich are the visitors to Villa Park. Could be one worth watching.

• HOW embarrassing it would be for big-spending Manchester United boss Ron Atkinson if lowly West Brom — the side he once managed — were to come away from Old Trafford with a point or three on Saturday. It seems that a lot of people want big Ron to fail but Albion may not have a say in his future.

• DONCASTER ROVERS give the old Sunday football a spin when they entertain Yorkshire rivals Rotherham this weekend. Should put a few on the gate.

• FRIENDLY action on Tuesday at home and abroad as Celtic take on Manchester United at Parkhead while Wales travel to face Saudi Arabia. We know which game we would sooner be watching!

BIRTHDAYS

• MANY happy returns to the following stars of soccer: Saturday — Paul Brush, Ian Dawes; Sunday — Mark Goodwin; Monday — Paul Haylock; Thursday — Kirk Stephens; Friday — Trevor Christie, Wayne Clarke.

TV ACTION

• AFTER some terrific Sunday afternoon entertainment in the shape of Chelsea v Liverpool, West Ham v Manchester United and Liverpool v Manchester United, the BBC now proudly present... 90 meaningless minutes featuring Israel v England in Tel Aviv! England's World Cup 'warm-up' against the team Scotland struggled to beat 1-0 last month kicks off on Wednesday afternoon. See Daily Press for kick-off time.

PROGRAMMES

• JUST one programme fair that we know about this weekend and that's the annual Dagenham FC event, Victoria Road Ground, Dagenham 11am to 2pm.

CAMPAIGNS

• ENGLAND'S World Cup footballers and their manager Bobby Robson have joined forces with the Health Education Council in a no-smoking campaign. The aim is to persuade young smokers to kick the habit or better still persuade youngsters not to start. Soccer's stars will be putting their message over this week and in following weeks — right up to the Finals in Mexico.

TIP-TOP EVERTON

IT'S not often that I agree with the bookmakers, but I have to go along with them this time.

They've made Everton the new favourites to lift the title and they certainly look good bets to me — especially now their most influential player is back.

Even though Peter Reid has missed much of the season, his team-mates have managed to keep the Champions in touch with early leaders Manchester United.

He's the first to recognise the efforts of his colleagues and says: "They've done the hard work for me. I'm just here to add the final touches.

"The lads have done marvellously well to close the huge gap United had opened up and we've got to fancy our chances now."

Peter's long-awaited return to first team action came in the League encounter with Spurs at Goodison last month — and he celebrated with a goal.

But his delight almost turned to despair as he recalls: "After I'd scored, I almost handed Spurs the equaliser on a plate. I was so tired that I hit a back pass straight to John Chiedozie.

"Thankfully he didn't take the chance and we picked up the points. So hopefully after a frustrating few months maybe my luck's changed."

Let's hope so — for England's sake too.

CUR BLIMEY!

A DOG is a man's best friend — or so the saying goes.

But I don't suppose you'll see many nods of agreement in the Manchester City camp.

And striker Mark Lillis in particular will no doubt insist we're barking up the wrong tree.

That's because of an amazing incident which occurred during City's FA Cup second replay against Watford at Maine Road earlier this month.

Just as he was about to shoot for goal, a dog ran on the pitch and delivered a 'biting tackle' to rob him of the ball and City of victory in the Fourth Round tie. It's a dog's life being a footballer!



Dave's Diary

Saturday, February 1 to Friday, February 7

S O that's what they mean by a right Royals cock-up! It seems as though the bubble may have burst for runaway Third Division leaders Reading who were hammered 6-0 by Walsall. And I wouldn't be surprised to see Derby beat them to the title now.

S AW just how much Bryan Robson means to Manchester United as their title hopes took another jolt with the 2-1 defeat by West Ham. 'Robbo' had put his team ahead and they looked in control until yet another injury forced him to limp out of the game.

M AYBE it's taking a little longer than I imagined but I'm still convinced one of my early-season predictions — that unsettled Arsenal midfielder Steve Williams would return to Southampton — will come true.

T HE look of relief on the face of Aston Villa manager Graham Turner said it all. His struggling side had just beaten Arsenal to reach the Semi-Finals of the Milk Cup and there was no doubt the feelings of a man walking a managerial tightrope.

W ATFORD winger John Barnes surprised a few people and disappointed a few clubs when he announced his intentions to stay at Vicarage Road — even if he becomes a World Cup hero. But will he stand by that if the Italians start to make their money talk... again?

T HOUGH much of the credit for West Ham's success so far this season has gone to goalscoring stars Frank McAvennie and Tony Cottee, it was about time Phil Parkes got the praise he deserved for keeping the Hammers' FA Cup hopes alive against Ipswich.

F IT and raring to go. That was the headline which must have brought a sigh of relief to every England fan. It referred to Bryan Robson's speedy recovery from his latest injury setback — but please 'Robbo', no more scares!

For the love of Ada!



Ada joins (from left to right) Barnsley coach Eric Winstanley, substitute Calvin Plummer and physio Norman Rimmington on the Oakwell bench.

I HAVEN'T seen many better defenders than Paul McGrath this season. And in the televised game against Liverpool, the Manchester United centre-back underlined what an improved player he is.

His composure and skill on the ball reminds me of his Eire team-mate Mark Lawrenson. And what a defensive partnership that would be in the First Division. It's just a shame England didn't secure their services before the Irish stepped in.

CLOBBERED

POOR Steve Whittom will want to forget the first day on loan at crisis club Birmingham in a hurry.

He'd only been at the club a matter of hours when thieves broke into his car and stole the clothes he'd bought for his month's stay in the Midlands.

Not quite the start the West Ham striker was looking for. Is there still a gypsy curse over Birmingham?

SMART by name and by nature — that's Hartlepool chairman John Smart.

As a racehorse owner, he knows a good bet when he sees one and so when the bookmakers offered odds of 9-1 against his club winning promotion he acted like a shot.

He put £1,000 down and, with Hartlepool well poised at the top of the Fourth Division, he looks to be on a nice little earner.

EIRE RESTORER

SURELY the Republic of Ireland could have found someone better qualified to restore the fortunes of their national team than Jack Charlton?

He's hardly got the sort of pedigree you'd look for in an international manager and his decision to turn his back on football last year also calls his attitude into question.

With a batch of candidates to choose from, it makes you wonder why they plumped for 'Big Jack' ahead of Bob Paisley.

Johnny Giles and Liam Touhey. In fact, if the original votes of the 18-man committee had been taken into consideration, the job would have gone to the former Anfield supremo. But the result — which gave Paisley nine votes and the other three candidates three apiece — didn't stand and another ballot was held eliminating Giles and Touhey.

The result of the second vote was Charlton 10 and Paisley 8. Confused? Not half as much as me, I bet.

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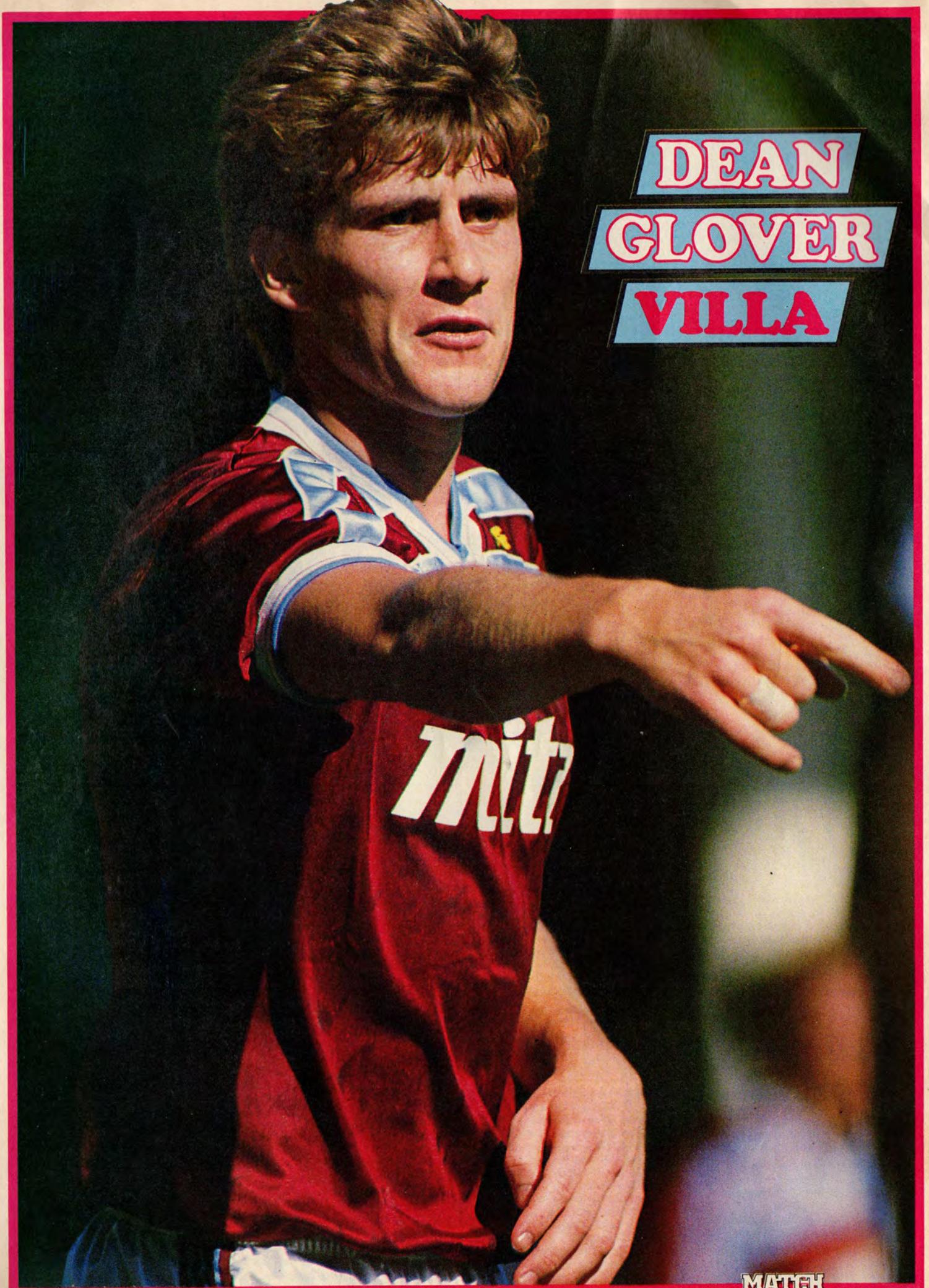
It's the best for news, features, match reports and big prize competitions.

Angling Times

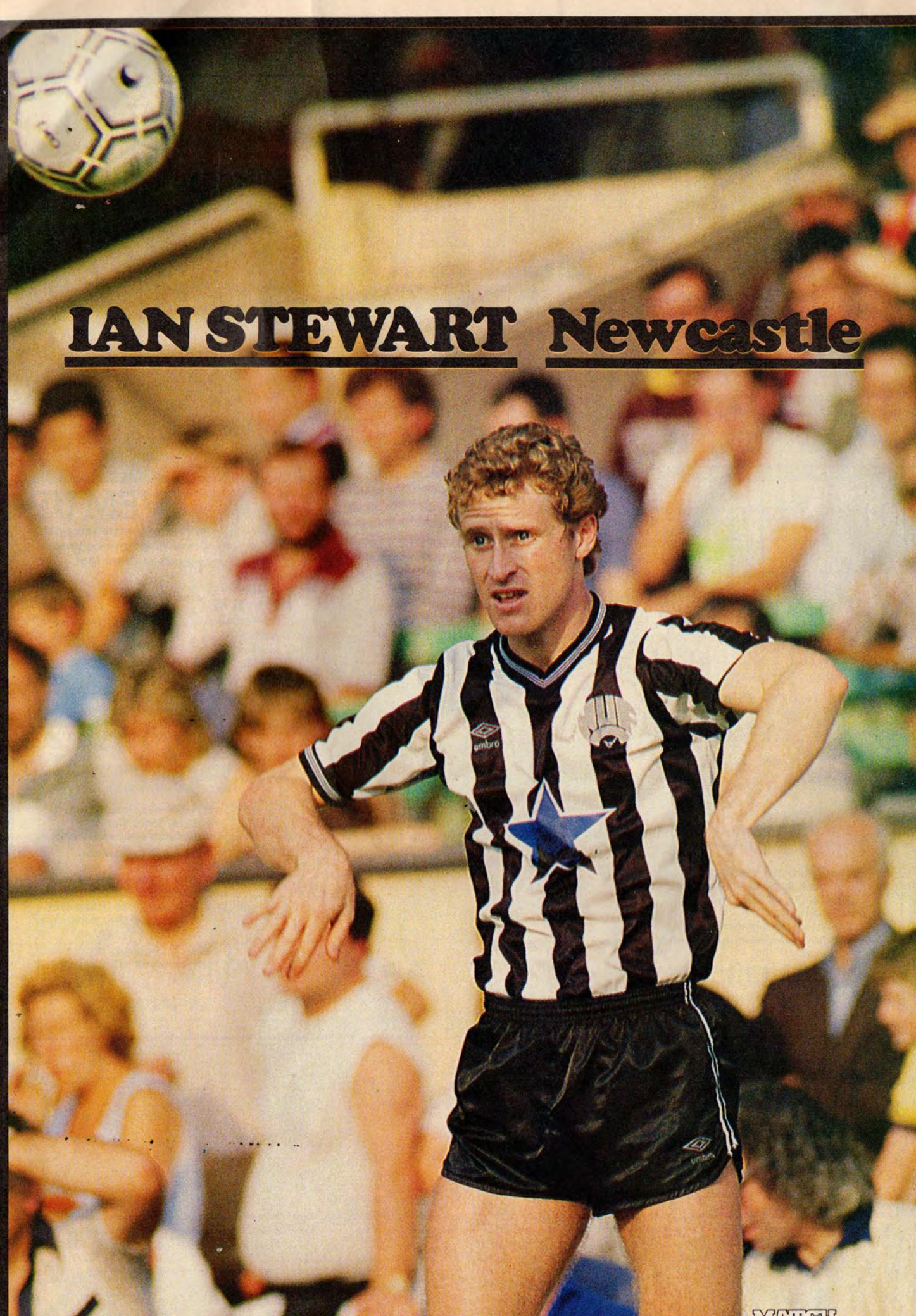
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MATCH



MATCH

CHAIN GANG

STUDY the row of letters below and find the names of ten well-known players — past or present.

WALSHAWKINSELLAMPARDOEDDYSONEILL

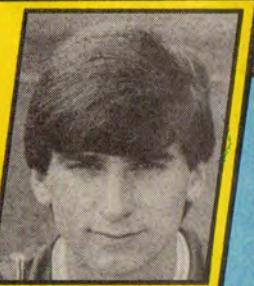
SCORE: One point for each player identified (maximum ten points).

YOUR TOTAL



TAKE ME ON!

SAYS LEICESTER'S
ALAN SMITH



STOP THE ACTION

HERE'S action from a League Cup Third Round replay between Leicester and Aston Villa in 1981. Can you name the five Leicester players clearly visible — and the Aston Villa player challenging for the ball?

SCORE: One point for each Leicester player identified and a bonus of five points for naming the Villa player (maximum ten points).

YOUR TOTAL

Filbert St. foxer ...

HOW much do you know about Leicester? Here are five questions to test your knowledge.

- 1 Which non-League club did we beat in last season's FA Cup?
- 2 Who did Gordon Milne succeed as manager of the club?
- 3 Which of my team-mates began his career with Hibernian?
- 4 When was the last time we won promotion from the Second Division?
- 5 How many times has the club lost in the Final of the FA Cup?

SCORE: Four points for each correct answer (20 points).

YOUR TOTAL

PLAYER GAME

SOLVE the following seven clues and fit the answers into the appropriate boxes to reveal the name of one of my Leicester team-mates.

- 1 The 'Gunners' Eire international defender.
- 2 Skilful Scot from Anfield.
- 3 Bury's free-scoring striker.
- 4 Portsmouth defender.
- 5 Aberdeen's international centre-half.
- 6 Former England defenders, Keith or Henry.
- 7 Craig or Maurice.

SCORE: Two points for each correct answer and a bonus of six for identifying the mystery star (maximum 20 points).

YOUR TOTAL

Predict the scores

NOW, just for fun, try and beat Alan at the predictions game. He has forecast the results of five First Division matches...

Fill in your own predictions and see who fares best when the actual results come through.

Saturday, Feb 22	Alan's predictions	Your predictions	Actual results
Arsenal v Chelsea	2-2		
Liverpool v Everton	1-0		
Oxford v Newcastle	1-1		
QPR v Luton	1-2		
Sheff. Wed. v Nott'm F.	2-1		

SOLUTIONS

PICTURE POSER: 1 Spurs; 2 Steve Perryman (left) and Gary Lineker; 3 FA Cup Semi-Final in 1982; 4 Villa Park; 5 2-0 to Spurs.
FILBERT STREET FOXER: 1 Burton Albion; 2 Jock Wallace; 3 Bobby Smith; 4 1983; 5 Four.
STOP THE ACTION: 1 From left: Kevin MacDonald, Geoff Scott, Allan Evans (Villa), Mark Wallington, John O'Neill and Ian Wilson.
MATCH 'EM UP: 1 B; 2 D; 3 E; 4 C; 5 A.
PLAYER GAME: 1 O'Leary; 2 Hansen; 3 Madden; 4 Gilbert; 5 McLeish; 6 Newton; 7 Johnstone; 8 Ian ANDREWS.
CHAIN GANG: 1 Paul WALSH; 2 Gary SHAW; 3 Graham HAWKINS; 4 Tony KINSELLA; 5 Roy ELLAM; 6 Frank LAMPARD; 7 Glyn PARDOE; 8 Keith EDDY; 9 Paul DYSON; 10 John O'NEILL.
FINAL TOTAL: HOW DID YOU RATE? Over 70-90 — excellent; 50-70 — good; 30-50 — average; below 30 — poor.



ENGLAND IN EGYPT



LEFT: Lineker of Arabia! Everton striker Gary Lineker has given plenty of defenders the hump this season. Now he gets some of his own treatment as he hitches a ride on the back of Charlie the camel.

BELOW: The sands of time may be running out for new players to break into Bobby Robson's squad but Southampton's Danny Wallace did his chances no harm by scoring the third goal in England's 4-0 victory over Egypt in Cairo.

Hands up those who 'Sphinx' England will win the World Cup! A giant pyramid and famous Sphinx statue form an imposing backdrop to this impromptu England team shot. Manager Bobby Robson stands over. Back Row (left to right): Dr Vernon Edwards (team doctor), Alan Kelly (goalkeeping coach), Don Howe (coach), Kenny Sansom, Peter Shilton, Viv Anderson, Mark Wright, Gary Lineker, Trevor Steven, Mark Hateley, Danny Wallace, Peter Beardsley and Ricky Hill. Front Row: Glen Kirton (Football Association Press Officer), Fred Street (physio), Chris Woods, Gary Stevens, Tony Woodcock, Ray Wilkins, Dave Watson, Gordon Cowans and Terry Fenwick.

IT'S FREE

THE OFFER NO FOOTBALL FAN CAN AFFORD TO IGNORE!

Subbuteo

The Football Game



The top stars play Subbuteo — like Everton and England midfielder Peter Reid. But Peter confesses he was never up to national standard when he played the game as a boy: "I only ever won the Street Championships in Huyton where I grew up."

GET YOUR OWN TEAM

THE 1986 Subbuteo National Championships kick off this weekend — the perfect time for MATCH to launch a super value Subbuteo offer for its readers.

Subbuteo — the game played all over the world — has chosen MATCH for this exclusive offer: 'Collect three tokens from Britain's top football magazine and we'll send you a Subbuteo team free!'

MATCH will print five tokens in all, the first of which appears below. Send in any three and you'll get your team, plus a free copy of the 1986 Subbuteo

Athens showdown

ATHENS awaits the Subbuteo Champions of Great Britain.

The ancient Greek capital is the venue for this year's Subbuteo World Cup between May 15 and 20 and Senior and Junior Champions from each of the four Home countries will compete with the best from more than 20 other nations.

But the long road to Athens starts this weekend with two regional finals — East of Scotland Final and East Anglia and South East England Final — on February 22 and 23.

Other important dates are: March 1/2 — North West England Final and West of Scotland Final; March 15/16 — Midlands and South West England Final; March 22/23 — Scotland Final and North East and North of England Final; April 4/5 — N. Ireland Final and Wales Final; April 12/13 — England Final.

The 1986 Subbuteo Championships, which have been further boosted by sponsorship from The Star national newspaper, promise to be the most exciting ever. Watch out for the latest results in MATCH.

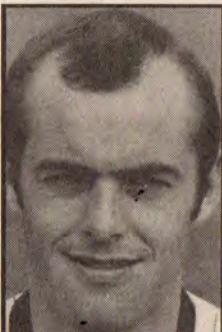
FREE TEAM TOKEN
No. 1

Below: Ian Andrews — number one.

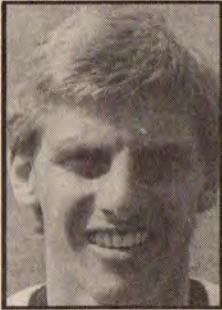
MATCHMAN OF THE MONTH



HANDY ANDREWS



Chris Price — long service reward.



Alan Walsh — City slicker.

LEICESTER'S goalkeeping tradition is safe in the hands of youngster Ian Andrews.

Following in the illustrious footsteps of Gordon Banks, Peter Shilton and Mark Wallington was never going to be easy, but the 21-year-old is coping admirably.

He's been earning rave reviews all season and some are already tipping him to succeed former Filbert Street favourite Peter Shilton in the England side.

And while it might be a little early to predict a bright international future for the Nottingham-born number one, there's no doubting his tremendous potential.

Even though his side struggled badly during January — the Midlanders picked up just one point from a possible nine — Ian picked up two star ratings to whip the country's cream in our monthly honours.

He pushed England defender Terry Fenwick into second place and headed a distinguished list of players which reads like a who's who of football.

Peter Beardsley, Gary Lineker, Ian Rush and Ray Clemence — to name a few — all had to take a back seat to the young 'keeper who might be the difference between survival and relegation for struggling Leicester.

● MAN mountain Micky Droy is head and shoulders above his Canon League rivals ... In topping our Second Division table, the

THE MONTH



WHICH players kicked off the New Year in style?

Find out in our exclusive 'Matchman of the Month' honours for January.

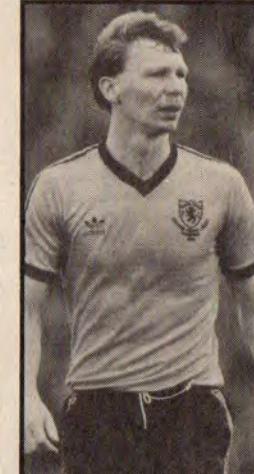
The honours are based on individual player ratings awarded in our weekly 'Match Facts' results service so it's consistency that counts.

See how your favourites fared ...

MATCH ALL-STARS

The MATCH all-star team for January — selected from the month's top-rated players.

CHRIS PRICE (Hereford)	TRISTAN BENJAMIN (Notts County)	MICKY DROY (C. Palace)	TERRY FENWICK (Q.P.R.)
PAUL RAYNOR (Huddersfield)	PAUL PARKER (Fulham)	KEVIN HIRD (Burnley)	TOMMY TYNAN (Rotherham)
ALAN WALSH (Bristol City)	ALAN WALSH (Bristol City)	JOHN HALPIN (Carlisle)	



Dave Dodds — pride of Scotland.

ANDREWS

Ian's keeping up a fine tradition

Crystal Palace giant achieved the highest average rating of the month — including two nine-star performances.

Micky recently announced his decision to quit at the end of the season, but if he maintains his current form 'Eagles' manager Steve Coppell will be keen to persuade him to stay.

The former Chelsea favourite finished ... ahead of a trio of players with an average of 8.00. They are Carlisle's John Halpin, Fulham's Paul Parker and Huddersfield's Paul Raynor.

● IN the Third Division, Bristol City striker Alan Walsh takes the honours.

The West Country club's leading scorer achieved the same average as Tristan Benjamin and Tommy Tynan but a trio of star ratings during January give him the edge.

DIVISION ONE

Player	Average rating
Ian Andrews (Leicester)	8.00
Terry Fenwick (Q.P.R.)	8.00
Nigel Gleghorn (Ipswich)	7.66
Peter Beardsley (Newcastle)	7.66
Gary Lineker (Everton)	7.66
Ian Rush (Liverpool)	7.66
Paul Gascoigne (Newcastle)	7.66
Tony Coton (Watford)	7.33
John Byrne (Q.P.R.)	7.33
Steve Wicks (Q.P.R.)	7.33
Mark Wright (Southampton)	7.33
Ray Clemence (Spurs)	7.33
Neil Webb (Nott'm Forest)	7.33
Johnny Metgod (Nott'm Forest)	7.33
Paul Power (Man. City)	7.33

DIVISION TWO

Player	Average rating
Micky Droy (Crystal Palace)	8.33
John Halpin (Carlisle)	8.00
Paul Parker (Fulham)	8.00
Paul Raynor (Huddersfield)	8.00
Tony Ford (Grimsby)	7.75
Ian Snodin (Leeds)	7.75
Louie Donowa (Stoke)	7.66
Martin Singleton (Bradford)	7.66
Billy Askew (Hull)	7.66
Gerry Daly (Shrewsbury)	7.66
Colin Robinson (Shrewsbury)	7.66
Gordon Hobson (Grimsby)	7.50
Ian Baird (Leeds)	7.33
John Hendrie (Bradford)	7.33
Andy Gray (Crystal Palace)	7.33

DIVISION THREE

Player	Average rating
Alan Walsh (Bristol City)	8.00
Tristan Benjamin (Notts County)	8.00
Tommy Tynan (Rotherham)	7.66
Lee Dixon (Bury)	7.66
Alan Birch (Rotherham)	7.66
Mark Kendall (Newport)	7.66
Terry Boyle (Bournemouth)	7.50
Ian Thompson (Bournemouth)	7.40
Nigel Vaughan (Cardiff)	7.33
Kevin Stonehouse (Blackpool)	7.33
David Staniforth (Newport)	7.33
Mick Gooding (Rotherham)	7.33
Colin Methven (Wigan)	7.33
Warren Aspinall (Wigan)	7.20
Mike Hughes (Swansea)	7.20

DIVISION FOUR

Player	Average rating
Chris Price (Hereford)	8.00
Perry Groves (Colchester)	8.00
Kevin Hird (Burnley)	7.75
Dean Mooney (Wrexham)	7.66
Tony Adcock (Colchester)	7.66
Trevor Morley (Northampton)	7.66
David Grant (Rochdale)	7.50
David Redfern (Rochdale)	7.50
Keith Cassells (Mansfield)	7.50
Ray Deakin (Burnley)	7.50
Clive Evans (Stockport)	7.50
Kevin Massey (Cambridge)	7.40
Paul Clark (Southend)	7.33
Gary Walker (Stockport)	7.33

SCOTTISH PREMIER

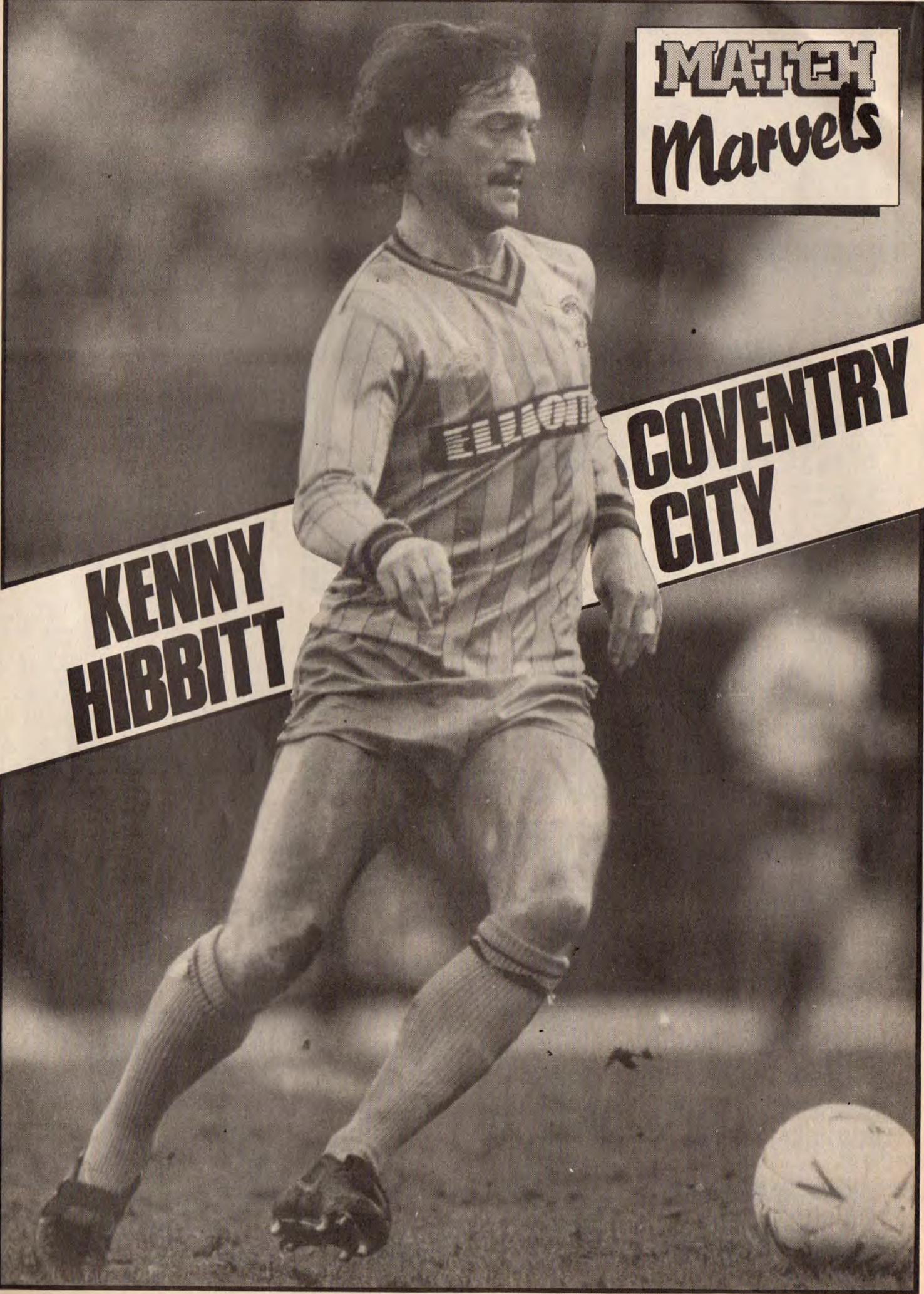
Player	Average rating
Dave Dodds (Dundee United)	7.66
Roy Aitken (Celtic)	7.40
Danny McGrain (Celtic)	7.25
Willie Miller (Aberdeen)	7.00
Neil Berry (Hearts)	7.00
Gary Mackay (Hearts)	7.00
Eric Black (Aberdeen)	7.00
Craig Levein (Hearts)	7.00
Sandy Jardine (Hearts)	7.00
Maurice Malpas (Dundee United)	7.00
Paul Hegarty (Dundee United)	7.00

● Players must have been awarded ratings in at least three League games for the same club during January to qualify.



Left: Micky Droy — a big month for the big defender from Crystal Palace.

KENNY HIBBITT

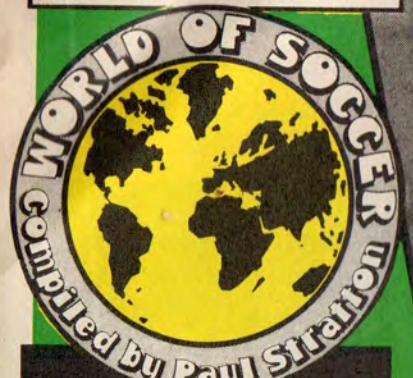


MATCH Marvels

COVENTRY CITY

14 WEEKS TO GO...

Don't miss our secret files on the 24 World Cup contenders. It's coming soon — only in MATCH!



How they stand

BELGIUM (Leading positions)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bruges	25	17	5	3	54	23	39
Anderlecht	24	15	7	2	58	24	37
Waregem	25	12	5	8	41	25	29
Ghent	24	11	7	6	37	24	29
Standard Liege	24	10	9	5	37	22	29
FC Liege	23	11	5	7	35	28	27

LATEST RESULTS: Club Bruges 2, Mechelen 2; Anderlecht 4, Antwerp 1; Waterschei 0, Standard Liege 3; Waregem 3; Lokeren 0; Seraing 2; Courtrai 0; Ghent 0; FC Liege 0; Charleroi 2; Molenbeek 2; Beerschot 0; Cercle Bruges 1; Lierse 1; Beveren 1.

PARIS ST GERMAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Paris St Germain	29	19	8	2	56	23	46
Nantes	28	15	8	5	39	21	38
Bordeaux	28	15	8	5	39	32	37
Auxerre	29	13	7	9	36	29	33
Monaco	29	9	14	6	43	32	32
Lens	29	12	8	9	27	14	32
Toulouse	29	13	5	11	48	38	31
Metz	29	10	10	9	39	27	30
Nice	29	9	9	10	30	36	29
Nancy	29	12	4	13	37	40	28
Laval	29	9	10	10	32	36	28
Lille	29	11	5	13	41	41	27
Schaux	29	9	9	11	37	41	27
Marseille	29	9	7	13	34	35	25
Toulon	29	7	11	11	38	40	25
Le Havre	29	9	7	13	36	38	25
Brest	29	9	7	13	35	47	25
Rennes	29	9	6	14	29	36	24
Strasbourg	29	5	8	16	24	49	18
Bastia	29	5	8	16	23	53	18

LATEST RESULTS: Paris St Germain 1, Le Havre 0; Monaco 3, Lille 2; Bastia 0; Toulouse 2; Toulon 2; Brest 3; Lens 1; Nancy 0; Rennes 1; Marseilles 2; Strasbourg 1; Auxerre 3; Metz 2; Laval 1; Schauch 2; Nice 0.

PANATHINAIKOS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Panathinaikos	19	13	3	3	38	18	29
Iraklis	19	10	5	4	24	13	25
Aris	19	9	7	3	26	17	25
Panionios	19	10	4	5	29	22	24
Oti	19	10	3	6	27	20	23
AEK	19	8	6	5	27	18	22
Larissa	19	7	6	6	22	15	20
Olympiakos	19	8	4	7	31	28	20

LATEST RESULTS: AEK 0, Olympiakos 0; Aris 0, Iraklis 0; Panionios 2, Apollon Kalamarias 1; Yanina 0, Oti 0; Panachaiki 2; Larissa 0; Doxa 0; Apollon Athens 0; PAOK 2, Ethnikos 1; Panathinaikos 4; Paneraiakos 0.

AC MILAN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juventus	20	13	6	1	30	7	32
Roma	20	13	2	5	29	15	28
Napoli	20	8	8	4	21	14	24
AC Milan	20	8	8	4	19	14	24
Torino	20	7	8	5	20	15	22
Fiorentina	20	6	9	5	21	16	21
Inter Milan	20	7	7	6	25	24	21
Sampdoria	20	6	7	7	21	17	19
Verona	20	7	5	8	19	26	22

LATEST RESULTS: Atalanta 1, Juventus 0; Bari 0, Pisa 0; Fiorentina 1, Como 0; AC Milan 2; Sampdoria 2; Napoli 2; Lecce 0; Torino 0; Roma 1; Udinese 3; Avellino 1; Verona 0; Inter Milan 0.

WEST GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Werder Bremen	22	16	3	3	61	30	35
Bayern Munich	22	14	3	5	50	24	31
Boerussia Moen	22	12	7	3	53	22	31
Athletico Madrid	24	12	5	7	39	27	29
Sporting Gijon	23	8	12	3	24	18	28
Seville	24	9	9	6	28	19	27
Real Sociedad	24	11	5	8	36	32	27
Zaragoza	24	8	9	7	33	28	25
Real Betis	24	8	9	7	30	30	25

LATEST RESULTS: Barcelona 3, Hercules 1; Cadiz 0, Seville 4; Real Valladolid 0; Athletic Bilbao 1; Real Madrid 2, Osasuna 0; Celta 0; Atletico Madrid 1; Sporting Gijon 2; Real Zaragoza 2; Real Sociedad 1; Racing Santander 1; Real Betis 1; Espanol 0; Valencia 1; Las Palmas 1.

Schalke

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Schalke	22	7	10	34	35	19	22
Boerussia Dortmund	22	7	10	5	35	45	19
Kaiserslautern	21	6	6	9	26	30	18
Cologne	21	5	8	5	31	38	18
Nuremberg	22	7	4	11	32	34	18
Saarbrucken	22	4	7	11	28	43	15
Fortuna Dusseldorf	22	5	4	13	30	49	14
Hanover	22	5	4	13	34	69	14

LATEST RESULTS: Stuttgart 7, Hanover 0; Borussia Dortmund 1, Fortuna Dusseldorf 0; Bayer Leverkusen 0, Nuremberg 0; Werder Bremen 2, Cologne 0; Borussia Moenchengladbach 2, Hamburg 1; Bayern Munich 5, Saarbrucken 1; Eintracht Frankfurt 1, Bochum 0; Schalke 2, Bayer Uerdingen 0; Kaiserslautern 1, Waldhof Mannheim — match postponed.

BOERUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Boerussia	22	16	3	3	61	30	35
Fortuna Dusseldorf	22	14	3	5	50	24	31
Bayer Leverkusen	22	12	7	3	53	22	31
Eintracht Frankfurt	22	11	3	8	35	23	25
Bochum	22	9	5	8	40	34	23
Waldhof Mannheim	22	9	5	8	33	49	23
Eintracht F	22	5	10	7	24	33	20
Bochum	20	9	1	10	38	33	19
Schalke	22	7	5	10	34	35	19
Kaiserslautern	21	6	6	9	26	30</td	

Hearts

BACK ROW (left to right): Andy Watson, David Todd, Neil Berry, Jim Cowell (now Ayr), Craig Levein, Henry Smith, Roddy MacDonald, Colin McNair (released), Brian Whittaker, Alan Redpath, George Cowie.
MIDDLE ROW: Tom Logan (physio), John Binnie (reserve team coach), Jim Sandison, Paul Cherry, Malcolm Murray, Mark

Drysdale, Mark Cairns, Iain Jardine, Neil Irvine, Sandy Clark, Jim Downie, Brian McNaughton, Walter Borthwick (first team coach).
FRONT ROW: Alex MacDonald (manager), John Colquhoun, Brian Miller, Gary Mackay, Scott Crabbe, Walter Kidd, Colin Scott, Kenny Black, Joe Love, John Robertson, Sandy Jardine (assistant manager).



1985 and all that

- 1 Which player scored both Juventus goals in the Italian club's 2-0 European Super Cup win over Liverpool?
- 2 What was the name of the French club Ian Wallace left to return to English soccer with Sunderland in January?
- 3 What extravagant plans did Blackpool announce for their ground — at a cost of £10 million?
- 4 How many minutes — from start to finish — did it take Mark Hughes to complete a remarkable hat-trick in the 4-0 League win over Aston Villa in March?
- 5 Where was Wales' vital World Cup qualifier with Scotland held in September?
- 6 Which club did escape specialists Coventry beat in the last game of the 1984-85 season to avoid relegation once more?

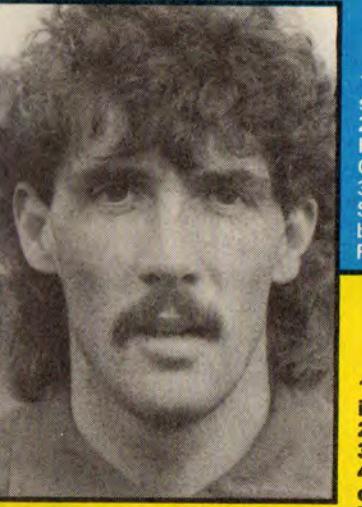
True or false?

- 1 Denis Law once scored six goals in a cup tie for Manchester City but still ended up on the losing side.
- 2 Old Trafford, Manchester, is the site of the biggest pitch in England.
- 3 The first-ever televised game was between Arsenal and Arsenal reserves.
- 4 Kenny Dalglish was the first person to be named PFA 'Player of the Year' and the football writers' 'Footballer of the Year' in the same season when he collected both honours in 1983.
- 5 Former Sheffield United, Chelsea and Bradford 'keeper Billy Foulkes weighed 25 stone.
- 6 Bill Lampton's career as manager of Scunthorpe lasted three days in 1959.

HOT-SEAT SHUFFLE

- 1 How old was Joe Fagan when he was appointed Liverpool manager in 1983 — 42, 52 or 62?
- 2 Who holds the record as the longest-serving manager of an English club?
- 3 Which boss broke Bob Paisley's domination of the Bell's 'Manager of the Year' award between 1978 and 1983?
- 4 How old was Ivor Broadis when he became the youngest person to manage a League club (Carlisle) in 1946 — 23, 28 or 33?
- 5 Who did Alan Ball succeed as manager of Portsmouth?
- 6 Which First Division club has had the fewest managers since the war?

TERRACE TRIVIA



ODDBALLS

Why do the Scilly Isles hold a special place in soccer history? What was unique about the home International championships of 1956? How many times was the Scottish Cup Second Round tie between Inverness Thistle and Falkirk postponed in 1979 — 9, 19 few minutes of Birmingham's League clash with Sunderland in 1980? 5 How did Alex McCall, playing for Renton against Leith, make scoring history in August 1891? 6 The Liverpool v Arsenal League clash in August 22, 1964 was part of an historical television occasion, why?

Gone to ground

At which South West League ground will you find the smallest pitch in England?

Which is the only club in Britain to boast two home grounds?

What distinction did Charlton's former home The Valley hold?

Which Fourth Division club can boast the longest pitch in the country?

The Racecourse ground at Derby was the venue for what football event in April 1886?

At which European ground was the 1981 European Cup Final held?

BLIND DATE

1 In what year did Brian Clough become Bell's Manager of the Year' — 1972, 1978 or 1984?

2 In what year did Great Britain become the first side to win an Olympic soccer

match — 1700, 1800 or 1900?

3 The first Football League game to be played on a Sunday took place in January 1974. Which two current Second Division London teams did it feature?

TRIVIA ANSWERS

Don't miss next week's Terrace Trivia quiz — only in MATCH!

CRIP CRACKERS!

The West Brom defence are powerless to stop this shot from Sheffield Wednesday's Mel Sterland (hidden) crashing home in their 2-2 FA Cup Third Round draw at Hillsborough. Wednesday went on to win the replay 3-2.



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collectors'
items for
odd-ball
reasons...

PROGRAMME PARADE

VILLA KILLER

ASTON VILLA arrived at Fratton Park in confident mood.

Home team Portsmouth had lost their opening three matches — the latest a 5-0 trouncing at the hands of Nottingham Forest.

And when Villa's Gerry Hitchens gave his

side the lead after just five minutes, defeat number four stared 'Pompey' in the face. But winger Peter Harris had other ideas...

Restored to his rightful position wide on the right following 90 fruitless minutes as an experimental inside-right in the Forest debacle, he proceeded to carve Villa up ... and so write his name into Portsmouth's record books.

With half an hour gone, the

home side were awarded a dubious penalty and up stepped Harris to equalise Villa's early score — beating goalkeeper Nigel Sims at the second attempt.

Six minutes later Harris tantalised full-back Peter Aldis before beating Sims with a superb left-foot drive.

It was the left foot again which brought up the hat-trick shortly following the interval, and when

Ron Newman's sharp cross brought about a scramble in the Villa goalmouth, the irrepressible Harris was on the spot for number four.

A few minutes from time the rout was complete when Villa left-half Pat Saward presented Harris with a gift of a chance to score goal number five.

Hapless Villa pulled a consolation goal back through Les Smith to make the final score

5-2 but the day belonged to Portsmouth and Harris who, approaching 33-years-of-age, was nearing the end of his celebrated career.

Born close to Fratton Park, Harris finished his one-club career in 1960 with 479 League appearances and two Championship-winning medals to his credit.

PORTSMOUTH: Uprichard, McGhee, Hayward, Dickinson, Gunter, Casey, P. Harris, Gordon, Weddle, H. Harris, Newman.

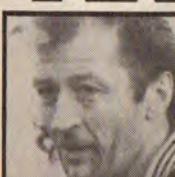
ASTON VILLA: Sims, Lynn, Aldis, Crowe, Dugdale, Saward, Smith, Hitchens, Sewell, Myerscough, McParland.

With half an hour gone, the



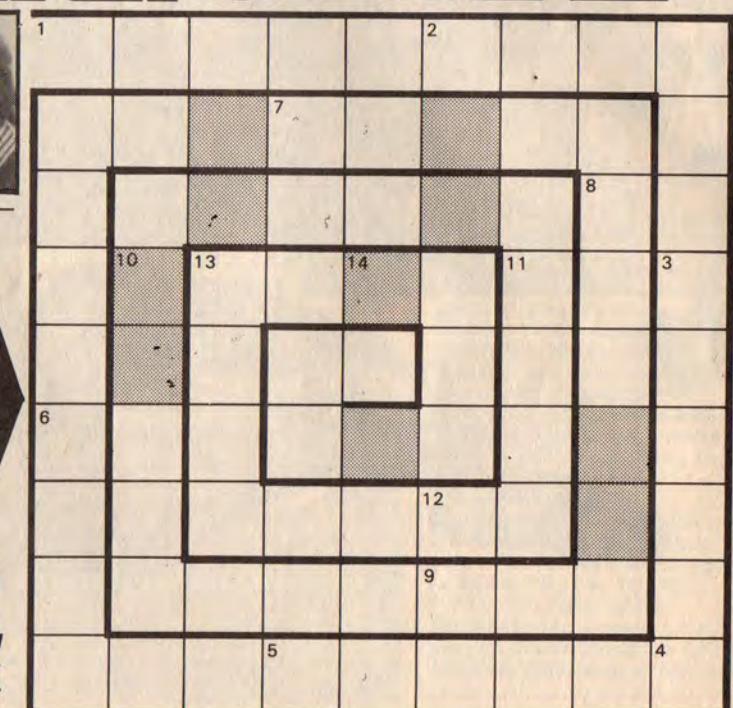
Tony Cascarino —
name his club.

MATCH SPIRAL



Frank Worthington —
name his club.

SOLVE the puzzle by entering all the answers in sequence — starting at the top left and ending in the centre. Each answer is the name of a club side and the first letter of each answer is also the last letter of the previous answer. When you have answered each clue and every square is filled, re-arrange the letters in the grey squares to spell out the name of one of the world's top clubs.



MATCH Facts MATCH Facts

SOUTHAMPTON: Shilton 6, Baker 5 (sub. Lawrence), Dennis 6, **★CASE 8**, Wright 7, Bond 7, Holmes 6, Cockerill 7, Moran 6, Armstrong 7, Wallace 6.

MILLWALL: Sansome 7, Stevens 6, Hinshelwood 7, Briley 6, Walker 7, **★MCLEARY 8**, Lowndes 5, Wilson 6, Fashanu 7, Lovell 6, Otułkowski 7.

Referee: B. Hill (Kettering); **Match Rating:** **★★**

YORK (0) 1 (Ford 60); **LIVERPOOL (0) 1** (Molby, pen 64); Att: 12,443

YORK: Leaning 7, Senior 6, Hood 7, McLaughlin 7, **★MacPHAIL 8**, Mills 7, Ford 7, Banton 6, Walwyn 6, Haslegrave 6, Canham 6.

LIVERPOOL: Grobelaar 7, Lee 7, Beglin 6, Lawrence 7, Wark 6, Hansen 7, Dalglish 7, Johnston 6, Rush 7, **★MOLBY 8**.

Referee: H. Taylor (Oadby); **Match Rating:** **★★★**

Matches postponed: Derby v Sheffield Wednesday; Watford v Bury; West Ham v Manchester United.

Division One

NEWCASTLE v ASTON VILLA — **Match postponed**

Division Two

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Keeley 72); **CRYSTAL PALACE (1) 2** (Gray 24, Wright 84); Att: 4,825

Blackburn: Genn 5, Branagan 5, Rathbone 5, **★BARKER 7**, Keeley 5, Fazackerley 6 (sub. Patterson 5), Miller 6, Hamilton 6, Quinn 5, Garner 5, Ainscow 6.

Crystal Palace: Wood 5, O'Doherty 6, Brush 6, Taylor 6, Droy 7, **★CANNON 8**, Irvine 7, Finnigan 6 (sub. Wright), Gray 7, Barber 6, Sparrow 6.

Referee: G. Apkin (Kendal); **Match Rating:** **★★★**

LEEDS (0) 0; **BARNESLEY (0) 2** (Walsh 61, 89); Att: 11,765

Leeds: Day 6, Stiles 6, Robinson 6, **★SNODIN 7**, Aspin 6, Rennie 6, Ritchie 5, Swan 5, Baird 5, Hamson 5, Harle 5 (sub. Phelan 7).

Barnsley: Baker 6, Burns 6, **★GRAY 8**, Thomas 7, May 7, Futcher 7, Owen 6, Jonson 7, Walsh 7, Hirst 7 (sub. Campbell), Cross 6.

Referee: L. Dilkes (Mossley); **Match Rating:** **★★★**

Matches postponed: Carlisle v Huddersfield; Fulham v Charlton; Hull v Shrewsbury; Middlesbrough v Grimsby; Norwich v Sunderland; Sheffield United v Bradford; Wimbledon v Stoke.

Division Three

PLYMOUTH (0) 0; **DONCASTER (0) 1** (Douglas 81); Att: 4,827

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Plymouth: Crudginton 7, Nisbet 7, Cooper 6, Goodyear 7, McElhinney 7, Matthews 6, Hodges 7, **★COUGHIN 8**, Cooper 5, Clayton 5, Nelson 6.

Doncaster: Rhodes 7, Stead 8, Rushbury 7, Humphries 6, Flynn 6, Cusack 7, **★BUCKLEY 9**, Douglas 7, Dobbins 7, Phillips 6, Brown 7.

Referee: J. Hemley (Ampthill); **Match Rating:** **★★★**

ROTHERHAM (1) 3 (Smith 7, Tynan 50, Birch 71); **WALSALL (0) 0**

Att: 3,512; **Rotherham:** O'Hanlon 6, Barnsley 6, Dungworth 6, Gooding 7, Smith 7, Pickering 7, **★BIRCH 8**, Emerson 6, Tynan 7, Trussell 7, Pugh 7.

Walsall: Cherry 5, Gunn 5, Mower 5, Shakespeare 6, Brazier 7, **★HART 8**, Taylor 6 (sub. Childs 7), Cross 6, Kelly 6, Elliott 5, Naughton 6.

Referee: J. Ashworth (Luffenham); **Match Rating:** **★★★**

Matches postponed: Derby v Sheffield Wednesday; Watford v Bury; West Ham v Manchester United.

CELTIC (0) 2 (McClair 54, Aitken 62); **QUEEN'S PARK (0) 1** (Boyle, pen 50); Att: 11,656

DUNDEE UNITED (0) 1 (Sturrock 50); **KILMARNOCK (0) 1** (Bryson 74); Att: 6,610

Matches postponed: Alloa v Motherwell; Dundee v Airdrie; Hamilton v Hearts; St Mirren v Falkirk.

First Division

Matches postponed: Clyde v East Fife; Forfar v Brechin; Partick v Dumbarton.

Second Division

RAITH (1) 3 (Herd 21, 84, Wright 53); **DUNFERMLINE (2) 3** (Campbell 3, Watson 14, 78); Att: 1,500

STRANRAER (0) 1 (Quinn 69); **MEADOWBANK (2) 2** (Campbell 18, Jackson 31); Att: 250

Matches postponed: Cowdenbeath v Albion; East Stirling v Berwick; Stenhousemuir v Queen of the South; St Johnstone v Stirling.

League Tables

DIVISION I

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Everton	29	11	2	40	15	7	4	27	20	59	32	61
Man Utd	28	9	3	22	8	2	4	26	17	56	32	61
Liverpool	29	11	4	2	36	11	4	5	5	52	20	54
Chelsea	27	11	1	27	14	5	5	3	18	54	32	54
West Ham	26	9	2	1	28	10	6	4	14	45	31	51
Luton	29	8	5	16	8	5	3	24	24	48	31	47
Nottingham	29	8	2	5	28	20	6	2	6	24	46	46
Sheff Wed	27	8	4	1	24	20	3	5	19	22	46	46
Newcastle	28	7	3	3	25	19	4	6	16	24	42	42
Man City	30	7	5	3	21	16	4	3	15	22	41	41
Watford	27	9	2	2	30	13	2	4	8	16	29	39
Tottenham	28	7	1	6	29	18	3	4	7	10	17	35
Southampton	28	9	4	2	27	11	3	0	10	27	34	34
Coventry	29	3	8	20	24	5	4	6	18	28	33	33
Leicester	28	4	7	3	25	22	2	2	10	12	29	27
Oxford	29	5	4	5	23	18	1	4	10	19	26	26
Ipswich	28	4	6	13	18	3	1	0	9	22	26	26
Aston Villa	28	2	6	15	18	3	4	7	16	25	25	25
Birmingham	28	4	10	9	17	2	2	9	6	21	21	21
West Brom	29	2	4	8	13	27	1	3	11	12	38	16

DIVISION II

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chester	29	11	0	1	24	11	7	1	7	12	17	61
Swindon	29	13	0	1	29	12	7	1	7	12	17	61
Mansfield	30	11	3	0	33	11	7	2	7	22	59	59
Hartlepool	29	13	2	1	32	12	4	3	6	17	21	58
Port Vale	30	10	4	1	33	7	4	5	6	19	21	51
Orient	30	8	4	3	28	12	5	5	5	22	24	48
Stockport	30	7	6	2	26	17	6	2	7	19	25	47
Walsall	29	8	5	4	24	16	5	3	6	19	23	43
Northampton	28	5	4	4	26	16	3	2	6	19	20	42
Cochester	29	8	3	3	29	13	4	3	8	23	31	42
Rochdale	29	9	4	1	29	15	2	5	8	12	29	42
Burnley	29	9	0	5	25	18	3	5	7	18	25	41
Tranmere	30	8	0	8	37	28	4	4	6	20	21	40
Hereford	30	9	3	2	35	19	2	3	11	13	31	39
Alfreton	28	8	4	1	26	17	3	2	7	19	23	36
Walsall	29	8	4	4	18	16	5	3	9	24	31	34
Halifax	30	6	7	2	31	18	2	3	10	12	33	33
Peterborough	27	6	7	1	20	13	1	4	8	15	29	32
Exeter	28	7	1	6	15	12	1	6	7	10	23	31
Cambridge	32	8	1	7	34	33	1	3	12	14	37	31
Scunthorpe	29	6	5	3	19	13	1</td					

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WHAT SUBJECT DID YOU HATE MOST AT SCHOOL? Modern Studies.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO IF YOU COULD BE INVISIBLE FOR A DAY? I'd like to be in the opposing team's dressing room on match day.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF SOMEONE GAVE YOU £50,000 TODAY? I'd say thanks very much!

WHO ARE YOUR FAVOURITE POP STARS? Rod Stewart, Elton John and Midge Ure.

WHAT IS YOUR CLAIM TO FAME OUTSIDE FOOTBALL?

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY? Barclays Bank and a meeting with Princess Diana

WHAT COULD BE A FLY ON THE WALL, WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE? In the manager's office.

IF YOU WERE COMPETING IN MASTERMIND, WHAT WOULD YOUR SPECIALIST SUBJECT BE? Pass!

WHO ARE YOUR FAVOURITE CARTOON CHARACTERS? Tom and Jerry.

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the PRIVATE LIFE of WEST HAM'S RAY STEWART

Big Frank Bruno pictured with Arsenal's Charlie Nicholas at a charity snooker event. The heavyweight boxer is a friend of Ray

IF YOU WERE FORCED TO SEEK A NEW JOB TOMORROW, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? Panic!

WHICH OTHER SPORTSMAN WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE? Seve Ballesteros.

WHICH ACTOR WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO BE? Richard Gere.

DO YOU HAVE ANY RECURRING DREAMS? Yes — winning the League Championship.

Saturday, February 22, 1986 MATCH

NEWSDESK... NEWSDESK... NEWSDESK.

ARTHUR'S STAYING AT DERBY

ARTHUR COX, manager of Third Division promotion chasers Derby, has agreed to a two-year extension on his current contract.

The decision means that the former Newcastle and Chesterfield boss is tied to the Baseball Ground club until 1989.

Wright's weighty woe!

Billy Wright—ordered to fight the flab and then loaned out to Chester.

DEFENDER Billy Wright—dropped and stripped of the Birmingham captaincy for being overweight—has joined Fourth Division promotion-chasers Chester on loan.

New controversial 'Blues' boss John Bond told the former Everton star that he must win the battle of the bulge and then promptly sent him to Sealand Road for a month.

It is the second time the former England Under-21 star has been in trouble over his weight. He lost the skipper's job at Goodison Park for being too heavy.

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Royals' record

READING have splashed out a club record £82,000 for Brentford skipper Terry Hurlock.

And 'Royals' manager Ian Branfoot has warned that the spending spree may not be over. He says: "If the right player comes along we'll go for him. We have been after Terry for some time. He's a cracking capture and proves to the doubters that we aren't content with just Third or even Second Division football at this club."

The 27-year-old made more than 150 League appearances at Griffin Park after costing the club £6,000 from Leytonstone.



Terry Hurlock—snapped up by Reading.

WHO CARES? Not me, says goal ace Craig

CRAIG MADDEN created a new Bury scoring record when he netted number 125 of his goal-laden career and then admitted: "I'm not bothered if I never get a chance to prove myself in the First Division."

The lower divisions' most prolific scorer (left)—regularly chased by the top clubs—overhauled the club's 51-year-old scoring tally against Bristol City earlier this month.

But still the big guns haven't come in with any real money and he says: "I'm resigned to never getting a chance of playing at the highest level."

"It used to annoy me. When I finished with 35 League goals in 1983 I thought someone might come in for me, but it never happened."

"I'd have loved the chance. My pedigree is good enough. Over the last five seasons I've hit the 20 goals mark regularly."

"Now there's no point worrying," says the 27-year-old, whose two goals against Reading blasted the Gigg Lane side into the FA Cup Fifth Round and a meeting with First Division Watford at Vicarage Road.

• Craig's 125th goal for Bury—his 11th of the League season—beat the Third Division club's record of 124 set by Norman Bullock between 1920-35.

Son shines at Forest

WELL done, son! That's what Nottingham Forest manager Brian Clough should be saying to his offspring, Nigel.

The exciting striker has been voted the Fiat Uno 'Young Player of the Month' for January by a panel of top judges including England boss Bobby Robson.

Says the national supremo: "Nigel is a very skilful player—he holds the ball and leads the line well."

Nigel pipped the likes of West Ham's George Parris and Everton starlet Neil Pointon, and Bobby admits: "It's been a really good month for young players—a few have really come to the forefront."

The regional selections were: North East—Paul Gascoigne (Newcastle); North West—Neil Pointon; Yorkshire—Paul Raynor (Huddersfield); London (North) and East Anglia—Jason Dozzell (Ipswich); London (South) and South—George Parris; Wales and West—Roger Freestone (Newport).

• That's my boy! Top dads talk about their sons on Page 5.



As the Third Division crisis club won a six-week stay of execution in the High Court, player-manager Tommy Hutchison opened his doors to aspiring young players. He has offered trials to any youngsters wishing to make the break into full-time soccer.

WATT'S WHISPERS

• NOBODY could help but be amazed at the Irish logic which led to Jack Charlton being named as manager of Eire... after he had polled only three votes while nine were cast in favour of Bob Paisley.

Think about it, was there ever any chance of Eire being managed by a guy called Paisley?!

IT'S JUST NOT THE TICKET!

THERE have been hints that the Scottish Football Association will handle only 15,000 tickets—half their usual allocation—for the England v Scotland match at Wembley on April 23.

It is suggested it is due to lack of demand from North of the border. Who is kidding who?

Thanks to the Government's later-than-late intervention which deprived the fans of last year's trip, the coffers of the countless Wembley savings clubs have been swollen by a further year's savings.

And, knowing of many friends who have made arrangements to have a week off work to coincide with the match, I am confident the 'Tartan Army' will be on the march in its usual numbers come April.

Of course, cynics say the genuine punters seldom get so much as a sniff of the SFA's allocation... and there are not many who will argue with that.

However, regardless of the source of their tickets, the fans are going to have to dig deep to meet the prices recently set by our mutual friend Ted Croker.

Top whack for a stand seat is £25, with other seats coming at £20, £15 and £9, and a place on the terracing costing £6.

Having been saving for this match since 1983, Scottish fans are hardly likely to quibble too much about the prices but, remembering that the meeting is now no more than a trumped-up friendly, the cost of tickets does appear to be somewhat unfriendly.

SCOTTISH SCENE WITH ROBERT WATT



FIXTURES GUIDE

Friday, February 21

DIVISION FOUR

Rochdale v Burnley.....
Wrexham v Southend.....

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Colchester v Orient.....
Exeter v Cambridge.....
Halifax v Port Vale.....
Stockport v Northampton.....

Saturday, February 22

DIVISION ONE

Arsenal v Chelsea (11.30).....
Aston Villa v Ipswich.....
Coventry v Southampton.....
Leicester v Birmingham.....
Liverpool v Everton.....
Man. Utd v West Brom.....
Oxford v Newcastle.....
Q.P.R. v Luton.....
Sheff. Wed. v Spurs.....
Watford v Nott'm For.....
West Ham v Man. City.....

FIRST DIVISION

Airdrie v Partick.....
Alloa v Dumbarton.....
Ayr v Forfar.....
East Fife v Hamilton.....
Falkirk v Kilmarnock.....
Montrose v Clyde.....
Morton v Brechin.....

SECOND DIVISION

Albion v Queen of Sth.....
Arbroath v Cowdenbeath.....
Berwick v Strenraer.....
Dunfermline v St Johnstone.....
Meadowbank v Raith.....
Queen's Pk v E. Stirling.....
Stirling v Stenhousemuir.....

SUNDAY, February 23

DIVISION THREE

Doncaster v Rotherham.....

MONDAY, February 24

DIVISION FOUR

Stockport v Exeter.....

TUESDAY, February 25

DIVISION TWO

Charlton v Wimbledon.....

DIVISION THREE

Bournemouth v Wigan.....
Bolton v Newport.....
Brentford v Lincoln.....
Bristol C. v York.....
Cardiff v Blackpool.....

DIVISION THREE

Chesterfield v Derby.....
Gillingham v Bury.....
Notts Co. v Darlington.....
Swansea v Reading.....
Walsall v Bristol Rov.....
Wolves v Plymouth.....

DIVISION FOUR

Aldershot v Tranmere.....
Crewe v Chester.....
Hartlepool v Torquay.....
Mansfield v Scunthorpe.....
Peterborough v Hereford.....
Preston v Swindon.....

WEDNESDAY, February 26

DIVISION THREE

Derby v Rotherham.....

• Fixtures correct at time of going to press.

GARY FITS THE BILL

HEARTS' energetic midfielder Gary Mackay showed his Tynecastle team-mates a clean pair of heels when he scooped a 'Super Fit' award following his club's 3-2 Scottish Cup win over Rangers.

The star's boundless energy earned him the Scottish Health Education's "Mr Superfit 'Man of the Match' award".

He's seen here being presented with a special plaque by Health Education Group director Stanley Mitchell (right) and Sandy Finlay, chairman of the Lothian Health Board.

Davie quits

DUMBARTON'S 4-0 defeat at Forfar was the final straw for manager Davie Wilson.

Having seen his team slide from the top of the league to fifth place, the former Rangers and Scotland winger decided it was time to move on and he tendered his resignation.

"Lately things have not been working out well at Boghead," Davie explains. "But I feel the club can still get back into the promotion race and win a place in the Premier Division."

'Bad boy' boss

FORMER soccer 'bad boy' Willie Johnston is set to become a manager.

The tempestuous former West Brom, Rangers and Scotland star—sent off 15 times between January 1969 and March 1983—is expected to be named as player-manager of Second Division Raith.



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Each game has the following basics: you can name your own teams and players but you always start at the beginning of a season. Each player varies in skill level, form, morale and value on the transfer market. Your team plays a whole season and each week league tables are shown. You can choose varying levels at which to play, from beginners to experienced.

BIG LEAGUE SOCCER

• Amstrad

ALMOST as hard as United but much clearer graphics and simpler format. You have a choice of colours and any of 88 teams, and the game tells you the strength of the opposition, which is very useful.

The principles are the same as the other games, but this has up-to-date First Division players available (even if the prices are crazy — only £25,000 for Gary

Bailey!) and more in-built uncertainties, such as injuries and suspensions.

With 42 matches per season, the game is demanding, especially as you have to pick your side from scratch before each match (rather than make changes from the previous match). There are, though, unnecessary errors. Hateley was spelt wrongly, for example. Price £6.95.

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THE ULTIMATE SOCCER QUIZ

• Spectrum

THE ULTIMATE SOCCER QUIZ

• Spectrum



IF there was a Bells Award for managerial computer games, this would be the outright winner. By far the most popular on the market. Football Manager has the advantage of good graphics for the match section (best seen on the CBM 64), although after a few hours playing you'll wish you could fast-forward to the final whistle.

In many ways the game is not as sophisticated as its rivals.

Squads have a maximum of 16 players, which with injuries can be a problem. The transfer market gives you very little scope and you have to be really appalling to get sacked.

On the other hand, it is easier to get the hang of this game. Recommended.

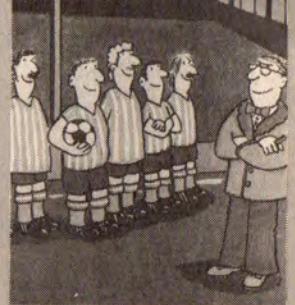
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THE BOSS

• CBM 64, CBM 16, Amstrad, Spectrum, BBC B, MSX, Electron (also available as CHAMPIONS for the Dragon).

THE BOSS

• PEAKSOFT



IT'S the age of the computer and this week MATCH — the magazine that is always first with the new ideas — brings you the first of an exclusive two-part guide to the best in football computer games. There are more than 20 different

COMPUTER GAMES MARKET

THIS straightforward game has a 38-game season, plus FA Cup and European matches, and offers certain advantages over its rivals. For example, your club finances are more realistic; they include fines, donations, rate demands, programme sales. I even had to pay £13,000 for riot damage!

Easier to play than most, its faults are that the actual matches are represented only by lists of scorers appearing as the minutes tick away quickly, and that providing you have enough money you can buy any player you want from your next week's opponents, and thus weaken their side. Nevertheless, highly recommended. Price £6.95 — £8.95.



INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL

• CBM 64 (also in 64 mode on Commodore 128).

TOP of the league without question! Simple to use, it has the clearest 3-D graphics, offers the closest control and the most options. You can change your team colours (although it's a shame that both teams play in black shorts), and choose one of nine skill levels (start at one). Players head the ball and the ball bounces with a convincing thud. Another strong point is the facility to make your keeper dive about the goal. This was the only action game I wanted to play for more than 20 minutes, yet the designer, Andrew Spencer, apparently knew nothing about football apart from what he read in a rule book! World-wide sales of the game top quarter of a million. Highly recommended. Price £14.99 (cartridge only).

SOCCER SOFTWARE

ACTION GAMES

SPOT THE BALL

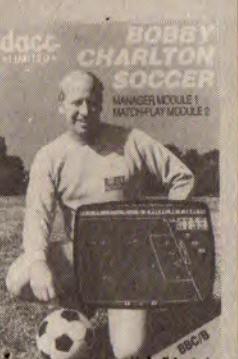
• Atari



A JOINT package with snooker, for joysticks only, this can be played by one to four people. Graphics are basic and the pitch too long and thin, but the players move up well and after each goal a defender carries the ball back to the centre-spot. Not worth buying an Atari computer especially for this but, if you already have one, it's reasonable value. Price £9.95.

BOBBY CHARLTON SOCCER

• BBC B, Electron



IN two parts; first you select your team according to its strengths and formations, then you play the match. Unfortunately the instructions don't make it clear how to get from one stage to the other (you have to press Q). The match itself is also rather difficult. The ball is tiny, goalkeeping is almost impossible and long-range goals are too easy. But then the game is endorsed by the former England and Manchester United hot-shot Bobby Charlton. He recites his own message of encouragement. A good idea is the chance to join Bobby's Computer Soccer Club.

Price £11.95.

FIVE-A-SIDE SOCCA

• BBC B, Electron



NEEDS two players, preferably with joysticks. Each team moves four players at a time, but the ball can only be kicked when in motion so there's no time for resting. Ricochets off the sides are fast and unpredictable, so you must also be very quick. Could it be a training aid for Sheffield Wednesday? A good basic game with no frills. Price £1.99.

GLENN HODDLE SOCCER

• Amstrad



WELL-DESIGNED game for joystick only with clear instructions. You choose length of game, skill levels and whether or not you want computer aid. Movement tends to be up and down more than diagonal, and I found it too easy to score own goals and walk the ball into the net. Also, the goalies don't wear different coloured shirts. Best with two players and worth considering. Price £8.95 cassette or £12.95 disc.

● **NEXT WEEK:** Don't miss part two of our exclusive guide!

NEXT WEEK

COLOUR EXCLUSIVE!

EastEnders heart-throb meets his Spurs heroes

Plus

● Norwich team

Everton in overdrive

Spotlight on the Champions' change of gear.

Billy Hamilton's Mexico Mission

SUBBUTEO SPECIAL

Don't miss your free get-a-team token.

That's my boy

Famous dads talk about their soccer star sons.

Atkinson's biggest blunder

How England's newest star escaped Old Trafford's clutches.

MILK CUP SPECIAL

Liverpool v QPR — focus on TV's live game.

MICK KENNEDY

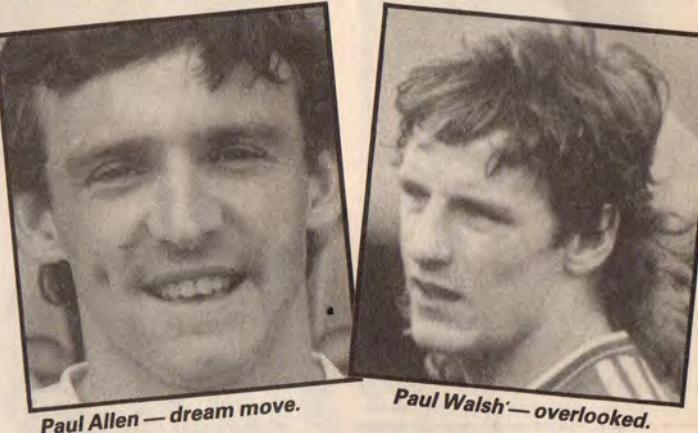
The Private Life of Portsmouth's midfield star.

TERRACE TRIVIA

The quiz that's got everyone thinking.

FRANZ CARR — picture special

ALL this and much more in MATCH — the GROWING football weekly!



Paul Allen — dream move.

Paul Walsh — overlooked.

THIS COULD BE ...

TIGERS' FORTUNES

MATCH spotlights a few of football's 'Tigers' and analyses their lucky year ...

TERRY GIBSON

STILL celebrating a 'dream' move from Coventry to Manchester United following a good season for goals at Highfield Road. And there may be more to savour in the shape of a Championship medal come May.

PAUL WALSH

SO FAR overlooked by England boss Bobby Robson as a possible late call-up for Mexico, but don't back against it. Enjoying a great season at Liverpool where he has struck up a fine partnership with Ian Rush and a great chance of 'double' honours in League and Cup.

PHIL PARKES

ENJOYING one his best seasons for years ... and so are West Ham as they string together their most effective Championship challenge for a long time.

PAUL ALLEN

ENJOYED a dream move to join cousin Clive at Tottenham in the close season, and while the first half of the season can hardly be described as a great success, this year could see him fulfil his real potential.



Phil Parkes — best season.

CHINESE legend has it, that hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, the Buddha gave a party for all the animals of his kingdom.

Only 12 turned up and the Buddha rewarded them by giving each a year and decreeing that all people born in that year would inherit the animals' characteristics. And on February 10, 1986 we entered the 'Year of the Tiger'.

MATCH investigates the effect of Eastern astrology on the fortunes of our footballing stars ... and leaves you to make up your own mind.



Spurs lift the FA Cup in the 'Year of the Cockerel'.

WHAT'S IN A YEAR?

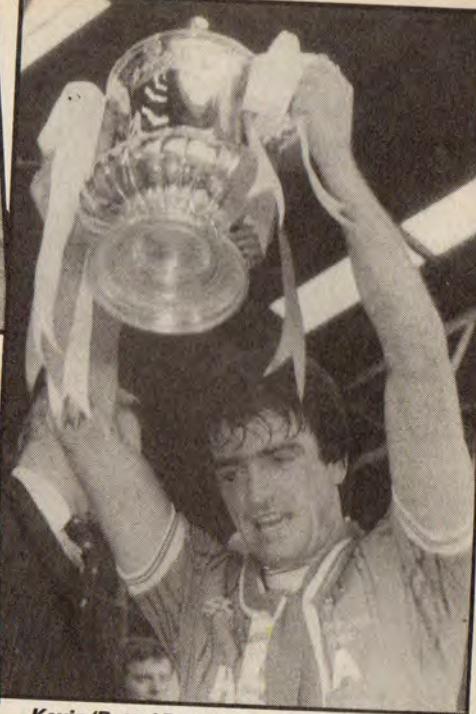
● LAST year it was the 'Year of the Buffalo' and 'Buffalo' John Clayton of Tranmere was the League's joint top scorer with 31 goals!

● IN 1923 it was the 'Year of the Pig' and Bolton — nicknamed the 'Trotters' — went on to win the FA Cup!

● NORWICH skipper Dave Watson lifted the Milk Cup in 1985 in his year — the 'Year of the Buffalo'.

● IPSWICH, whose club crest features the horse, upset all the odds to beat Arsenal in the 1978 FA Cup Final ... in the 'Year of the Horse'!

● SCOTTISH striker Graeme Sharp scored Everton's opening goal and picked up an FA Cup winners' medal against Watford in the 'Year of the Rat' ... his Chinese star sign.



Kevin 'Ratty' Ratcliffe lifts the FA Cup in the 'Year of the Rat'.

THE TIGER'S YEAR

Stories by PAUL STRATTON



IN 1981 it was the 'Year of the Rooster' ... and the White Hart Lane cockerel was crowing as Spurs lifted the FA Cup.

In 1984 it was the 'Year of the Rat' ... and it was Ratty himself (alias Everton skipper Kevin Ratcliffe) who led the 'Toffees' to Wembley glory.

And in 1985 it was the 'Year of the Buffalo' ... and Oxford United, whose club emblem depicts an ox, were promoted to Division One for the first time in their history.

FOLLOW THE SIGNS

YOUR sign ... and your lucky years. Simply find the year you were born and read across for your sign.

RAT	1948	1960	1972	1984
BUFFALO	1949	1961	1973	1985
TIGER	1950	1962	1974	1986
CAT	1951	1963	1975	1987
DRAGON	1952	1964	1976	1988
SNAKE	1953	1965	1977	1989
HORSE	1954	1966	1978	1990
GOAT	1955	1967	1979	1991
MONKEY	1956	1968	1980	1992
ROOSTER	1957	1969	1981	1993
DOG	1958	1970	1982	1994
PIG	1959	1971	1983	1995

Gary Swann — lucky year.

Coincidence? Maybe. But who is to say that the 'Tigers' of Hull City will not have something to celebrate at the end of the season, in this, the 'YEAR OF THE TIGER'.

And if they do, could it be — just like Oxford last year — that they have made club history by achieving First Division Soccer?

Sixth in Division Two with 14 matches to play, Hull obviously have a bit of catching up to do on the leaders.

But with a bit of Eastern astrology on their side, anything can happen.

And defender Gary Swann — a 'Tiger' through and through due to the fact he was born in 1962 (see photo left) — is set to play a major role in what is his special year.

When MATCH contacted him and suggested it might be that the stars are on his side, Gary said: "I just hope the Chinese have got it right!"

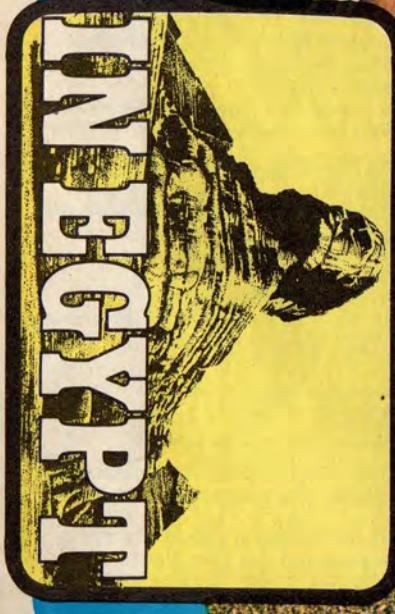
CLOSE THE GAP

"It's not anything I've really thought about but we can all do with a little help from time to time.

"I certainly believe we are good enough to go up this season and there are plenty of matches left for us to close the gap on the top clubs.

"It's up to us to go out there and prove it."

ENGLAND



BACK ROW (left to right): Mark Wright, Terry Fenwick, Mark Hateley, Peter Shilton, Gary Stevens, Gary Lineker.
FRONT ROW: Gordon Cowans, Kenny Sansom, Danny Wallace, Ray Wilkins, Trevor Steven.